

~~TOP SECRET~~NSC REVIEW  
COMPLETED.THE WHITE HOUSE  
WashingtonSeries B  
Cy one of one

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NRO review(s) completed.

August 26, 1960

## MEMORANDUM FOR

The Secretary of State  
The Secretary of Defense\*  
The Attorney General\*\*  
The Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission  
The Director of Central Intelligence

I hereby direct that the products of satellite reconnaissance, and information of the fact of such reconnaissance revealed by the product, shall be given strict security handling under the provisions of a special security control system approved by me. I hereby approve the TALENT-KEYHOLE Security Control System for this purpose.

Within your agency, you shall be personally responsible for the selection of those personnel who will have access to the foregoing information and for determining the scope of that access. Access is to be on a "must know" basis related to major national security needs. A list of those selected shall be furnished to the Director of Central Intelligence, who will maintain and review the control roster. When they are indoctrinated, they shall be informed of my specific direction to them that the provisions of the special Security Control System I have approved be strictly complied with, including the prohibition upon them of imparting any information within this system to any person not specifically known to them to be on the list of those authorized to receive this material. The responsibility for the selection of personnel may be delegated only to the senior intelligence chief or chiefs within the agencies serving as members of the U. S. Intelligence Board.

The Director of Central Intelligence, in consultation with the U. S. Intelligence Board, will be responsible to me for determining all questions involved in the continued protection and control of the foregoing material and information, including the development of a common understanding as to the meaning of the term "'must know' basis related to major national security needs," and a broad consensus as to the numbers of personnel in each agency comprehended by this term.

signed Dwight D. Eisenhower

\*For Department of Defense  
including OSD, JCS, Army,  
Navy, Air Force, and NSA

\*\*For Director, FBI

HANDLE VIA TALENT-  
KEYHOLE SYSTEM ONLY~~TOP SECRET~~

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DCI PROPOSALS FOR MODIFICATION OF  
TALENT-KHOLE CONTROLS FOR PRODUCTS  
OF PHOTOGRAPHIC SATELLITES

(Approved by USIB on 10 September 1973)

PROPOSAL NO. 1

That "the fact" that the United States has a photographic satellite reconnaissance program be taken out of the T-KH compartment and be classified SECRET.

PROPOSAL NO. 2

That the substantive intelligence information from past and present photographic satellites (with certain sensitive exceptions) be authorized for use in finished intelligence outside the T-KH compartment, with provisions that:

- a. the source be stated only as "satellite reconnaissance" without specifying the type of satellites;
- b. the classification of the decompartmented information be TOP SECRET or SECRET, based solely on the sensitivity of the substantive contents as required by E. O. 11652 and that the control markings [redacted]  
[redacted] be used on all such information; and
- c. information which is highly sensitive because of its substance or its revelation of the quality of the system be designated, on a case-by-case basis, for retention in the T-KH compartment.

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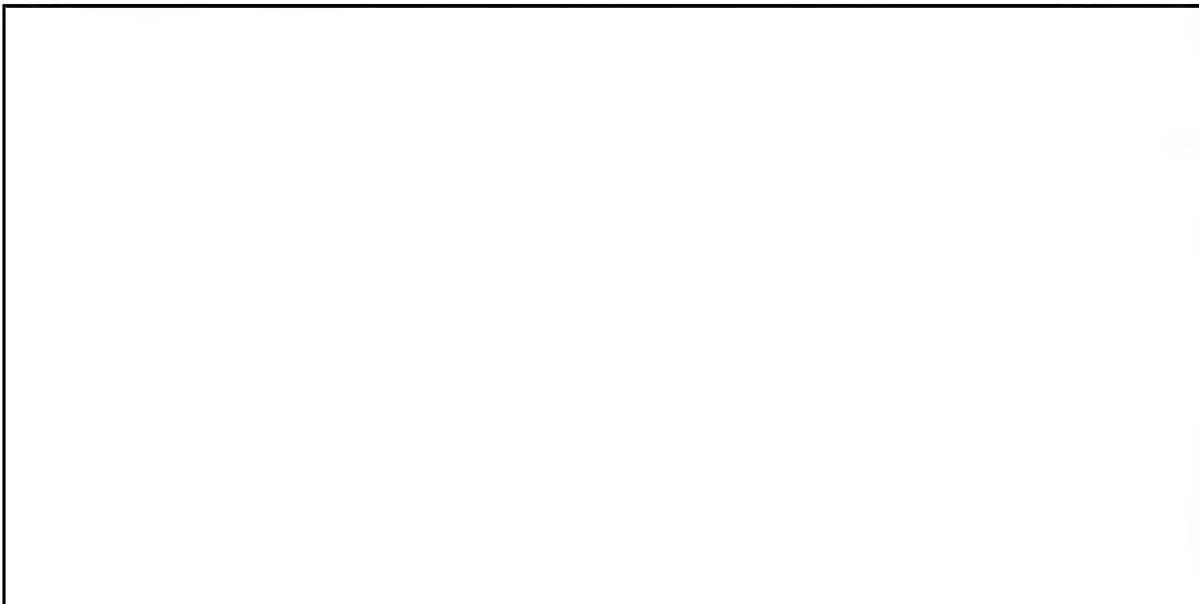
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PROPOSAL NO. 3

That film and prints from the index and mapping cameras of all past and present systems as well as film and prints from the main cameras of the KH-4, KH-5 and KH-7 be authorized for use outside the T-KH compartment provided that:

- a. the classification and control markings be those specified in Proposal 2b., above;
- b. no wholesale program be undertaken for automatic removal of T-KH markings from all film of the designated systems.

PROPOSAL NO. 4



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PROPOSAL NO. 5

That compartmentation of information pertaining to future imagery systems be continued.

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Washington, D. C. 20500

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DRAFT

[Redacted]

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National Security Decision Memorandum

TO: The Secretary of State  
The Secretary of Defense  
The Secretary of the Treasury  
The Attorney General  
The Director of Central Intelligence  
The Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission

SUBJECT: Modification of the TALENT-KEYHOLE  
Controls for the Products of Photographic  
Reconnaissance Satellites

The President has approved the recommendation of the Director of Central Intelligence to modify some of the security controls relating to the TALENT-KEYHOLE Security Control System which was established by Presidential Memorandum of August 26, 1960. Specifically, the President has authorized that:

- (1) The fact that the United States Government conducts a photographic satellite reconnaissance program for foreign intelligence collection be removed from the compartmented controls of the TALENT-KEYHOLE Security Control System, provided that the fact of such a program will be classified at a minimum level of SECRET.

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TOP SECRET

(2) The Director of Central Intelligence, after consulting the Secretary of Defense, may remove from the compartment controls of the TALENT-KEYHOLE Security Control System the product of such intelligence photo-satellite collection as he deems appropriate, provided that (a) the product removed from the compartment under this authorization shall be classified according to the provisions of Executive Order No. 11652, and (b) such product shall not reveal the sensitive technical capabilities of current or future intelligence satellite programs. The TALENT-KEYHOLE Security Control System itself will continue to exist to provide compartmented protection for those aspects and products of satellite reconnaissance programs requiring such protection.

The President has further directed that the Director of Central Intelligence shall continue to be responsible to him for establishing policy guidelines for the security protection and control of information pertaining to the U.S. intelligence satellite collection program

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and the products derived from it. This will include the establishment and continued review of appropriate procedures, consistent with United States policy interests, for the release of the satellite intelligence product or information derived from it to foreign governments.

Henry A. Kissinger

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

21 SEP 1973

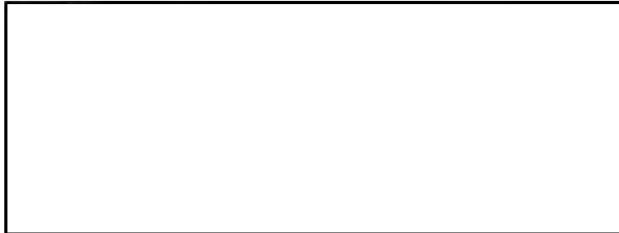
MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to the President  
for National Security Affairs

SUBJECT: Modification of the TALENT-KEYHOLE  
Controls for the Products of Photographic  
Reconnaissance Satellites

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to request authority to modify the special security control system for handling the products of reconnaissance satellite programs (the TALENT-KEYHOLE Security Control System). Since the T-KH System was established in response to specific instructions in a Presidential Memorandum of August 26, 1960, it is necessary to obtain the approval of the President to modify the existing T-KH controls. A draft NSDM authorizing this modification is attached at Tab A. A copy of the 1960 Presidential Memorandum is attached at Tab B.

2. I have believed for some time that maximum benefit from the photography collected by intelligence satellites is inhibited by the continuation of compartmented control over all aspects of the program. Recently, I placed before the United States Intelligence Board (USIB) a proposal to remove from the T-KH compartment, but to continue as classified information:

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- the fact of the existence of a U.S. photographic satellite intelligence program, and
- certain information and photography derived from this program.

3. It is important to note that this proposal in no way suggests public disclosure of any aspects of the intelligence satellite program nor does it include removal from compartmentation of all aspects of the program. Specifically excluded from consideration are:

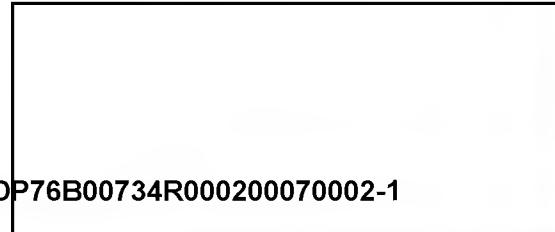
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4. The T-KH compartment itself would remain intact in order to provide special protection to products which may reveal truly sensitive substantive information or capabilities of the photographic reconnaissance satellite program.

5. The USIB concurred in this proposal, a more detailed summary of which is attached at Tab C. The Director of the National Reconnaissance Office recommended that action be deferred for further study of the adequacy of the proposed classification arrangements. All members of the USIB and I believe that classification arrangements can be developed to provide the necessary protection of the information and that the benefits to be derived from the proposal are urgently needed. I have also discussed the proposed modifications to the T-KH Control System with the Secretary of Defense and he concurs.

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6. I recommend that you raise this matter with the President and seek his approval of the draft NSDM attached hereto. If approved, I will keep you informed of any significant changes made under the authority granted by the proposed NSDM.

*/s/ W. E. Colby*

W. E. Colby

Attachments:

25X1 Tab A - Draft NSDM, [redacted]

25X1 Tab B - Presidential Memorandum;  
Dated August 26, 1960;  
[redacted]

25X1 Tab C - Summary of DCI Proposed T-KH  
Modifications, [redacted]

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to the President  
for National Security Affairs

SUBJECT: Modification of the TALENT-KEYHOLE  
Controls for the Products of Photographic  
Reconnaissance Satellites

Distribution:

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14 - Chairman/COMIREX  
15 - ExecSec/USIB  
16 - DDI/IRS  
17 - DDI/IRS

Note: Respective Cy Nos.  
of Tabs A, B, and C  
are attached to Cys  
1 through 17.

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